

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JEFFREY HANDY,  
Plaintiff,  
-against-  
CITY OF NEW YORK, et al.,  
Defendants.

19-CV-3885 (MKV) (OTW)

**ORDER**

**Ona T. Wang, United States Magistrate Judge:**

The Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization have advised people to take precautions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Chief Judge of this Court has entered standing orders regarding the same. *See, e.g.*, 20-MC-155. In order to protect public health while promoting the "just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding," Fed. R. Civ. P. 1, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that counsel shall conduct work remotely. This includes, but is not limited to, client meetings, work meetings, and hand deliveries of courtesy copies to the Court (courtesy copies can be sent via email or mail). It is further

**ORDERED**, that **no in-person depositions shall take place on or before April 30, 2020**, absent a showing of exceptionally good cause. For depositions planned on or after May 1, 2020, parties shall submit a joint status letter with deposition plan(s) **fourteen (14) days** before the planned deposition(s). It is further

**ORDERED**, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), that all unexpired discovery deadlines are hereby EXTENDED for a period of **60 days**. **Counsel shall file a joint proposed order with the new discovery deadlines within seven (7) days of this Order**. Nothing in this Order prevents the parties from seeking to further modify the pretrial schedule in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (or for any other good cause). Before seeking such relief, the parties must, as always, meet and confer (via remote means) in a good faith effort to reach agreement on how best to fulfill the goals of Rule 1 while avoiding unnecessary health risks. It is further

**ORDERED** that if counsel has any private, personal, familial or medical concerns that they need to share with the Court that would necessitate further orders, counsel may email Wang\_NYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov *ex parte* provided that they advise the other parties that they will be contacting the Court *ex parte*.

Defendants are directed to submit a status letter by **May 1, 2020** and mail a copy of this order and their letter motion at ECF 34 to Plaintiff.

The Clerk is respectfully directed to close ECF 34.

Dated: New York, New York  
March 20, 2020

**SO ORDERED.**

*s/ Ona T. Wang*

**ONA T. WANG**  
**United States Magistrate Judge**